

Earned Highest Pro-Business Score in Arizona Congressional Delegation, Receives Prestigious "Spirit of Enterprise Award"

WASHINGTON - U.S. Rep. Harry Mitchell today was honored by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce with its prestigious "Spirit of Enterprise" Award for his pro-growth, pro-business record during the first session of the 111th Congress.

"I am delighted to receive this tremendous and very humbling honor," Mitchell said. "Small businesses are the backbone of Arizona's economy and play a vital role in creating jobs critical to our economic recovery. I believe that it is important that business owners and entrepreneurs retain access to the resources they need to grow and expand, and I will continue to be a strong advocate for their concerns in Washington."

This morning, Thomas J. Donohue, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, recognized Mitchell among a select group of members of Congress at an awards breakfast in Washington. [[U.S. Chamber Press Release](#)]

"The Chamber applauds Representative Mitchell for supporting the private sector and job growth through these difficult times," Donohue said. "He has demonstrated great courage and we commend him."

The annual award recognizes members of the U.S. House or Senate who have significantly advanced the interest of local business in the previous year. This is the twenty-second year that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has formally honored the accomplishments of this select group of members of Congress. Mitchell was one of 19 Democrats among the 230 members recognized by the Chamber. [Source: [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#) , April 27, 2010]

The U.S. Chamber determines eligibility for the award based on how members vote on key business issues. Mitchell received the highest score of any member of the Arizona Congressional Delegation - both in the U.S. House and Senate, and among Republicans and Democrats.

Members who support the U.S. Chamber's position on at least 70 percent of those votes receive the award. Mitchell maintained an 80 percent rating with the Chamber this year - the highest rating in the Arizona delegation for 2009. [Source: [How They Voted](#) , U.S. Chamber of Commerce 2009 Scorecard]

Mitchell has been routinely recognized for his independence and commitment to his Arizona constituents. Earlier this year, he was recognized by *The Wall Street Journal's* editorial board for having a "sensible" position on key tax cuts. [

[The Wall Street Journal](#)
, January 27, 2010]

Additionally, in its 2009 rankings, *National Journal* places Mitchell as the fourth most independent Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives on economic issues, placing him overall as one of the most independent Members of Congress. [

[National Journal](#)
, February 27, 2010]

In 2009, Mitchell was also named the South West Transit Association's Legislator of the Year, and received the American Legion Department of Arizona's 'Distinguished Legislator of the Year' award. He was also recognized formally by the Mesa City Council for his contributions to and representation on behalf of the City of Mesa.